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YOKOHAMA AND TOKYO FOREIGN BOARD OF TRADE, DISQUIETING BUSINESS OUTLOOK. ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Yokohama and Tokyo Foreign Board of Trade was held at the Board's office on Thursday, May 25th. Mr. I. Bickart (Chairman of the Board) who presided, reports the *Japan Chronicle*, in reviewing the trade of the year said that it was to be expected that 1921, following a year of general collapse, should have shown poor results; but it was, on the whole, not so bad as had been anticipated. The volume of business was smaller, but there were generally fewer claims on account of exports, and better deliveries of imports.

But if we endeavour to form an opinion as to the future, I fear the outlook must be considered as disquieting. In most countries considerable declines in values have occurred, and wages have been drastically cut in the majority of cases; but in Japan the exact contrary has been seen—wages in many instances are higher than ever, and no declining tendency can be observed in the cost of living, while the goods produced are generally of unsatisfactory quality. Labour conditions tend to become chaotic, and there appears to be no settled system under which workmen can be discharged; the workers are getting things much as they wish, and strikes are called for the purpose of intimidating employers and exacting the most preposterous terms.

SPIRIT OF GAMBLING ENCOURAGED BY POLICY OF GOVERNMENT.

Another adverse condition is the spirit of gambling, which has to a considerable extent, been encouraged by the ultra-protectionist policy pursued by the Government, and seriously interferes with the transaction of legitimate business. The manipulation of the Raw Silk market is a striking instance of what is possible when the Government decides that the price on any artificial level. The law of supply and demand is not permitted to govern the regulation of value.

The Government officials are loudly clamouring for the putting forth of all possible efforts in order to revive the export trade, which has fallen off to so serious an extent. As a means to this end they advocate lower cost of production and better workmanship; but to what extent do they assist in the attainment of this very desirable result? Their policy has generally been directed to the maintenance of prices at a level, which will save from less than gumbler and profiteers who were not able to dispose of their holdings when the crash came in 1920. Calls for upward revisions of the Customs Tariff have been sympathetically considered and combinations of manufacturers, with the object of restricting output and maintaining prices have received social support in many instances. When we find the Government so actively interested in preventing any decline in prices, it is excusable to lose faith in the probability of an early recovery of those foreign markets into which Japanese goods had penetrated during the war period, and which markets are now being recovered by their former suppliers. Manufacturers appear to find it impossible to realise that the exceptional advantages which they enjoyed during the war exist no longer, and to grasp the fundamental idea that only by a readjustment of their business methods can they hope to retain any of the ground gained during the boom period. The lure of large profits still obsesses them, and the idea of working for a reasonable profit is repugnant to their minds. Until there is a radical alteration in this respect, the future can hold but little hope.

That the total trade should exhibit a considerable falling off is not surprising. In this Japan is sharing the experience of other countries. The maintenance of prices in this country, coupled with a still large purchasing power, easily accounts for the excess of imports.

It is worthy of notice that the great falling off in the export of manufactured and semi-manufactured goods, attributable in great part to the artificial maintenance of prices and the inferior workmanship which has become so noticeable a feature of many goods.

The excess in value of imports over exports, which is slightly less than for the previous year, causes grave apprehension among the authorities, who are endeavoring to devise means for turning the deficit into a surplus. So far their efforts appear to have been confined to the consideration of a comprehensive scheme of increased import duties and the restriction of credits to exporters; but such measures can only result in increasing the cost of living which naturally reduces the country's capacity to export goods in competition with other manufacturing countries.

PROBLEMS JAPAN HAS TO FACE.
Every country is faced with the problems resulting from the war, and it is not to be expected that these will be easily solved in any case. We can only hope that Japan will find means to readjust the situation, and place manufacturers in a position to carry on business in a healthy and progressive manner. But if that end is to be attained, manufacturers and merchants must realise that the halcyon days of wartime are no more, and that they must hasten to readjust their ideas of what constitutes reasonable profit, and to put their business on a sound footing. We may also hope that the decision of the Washington Congress will enable the national expenditure to be brought within reasonable limits, and thus reduce the heavy taxation which weighs on the nation to-day.

THE PRICE OF COAL.
As mentioned at our last annual meeting, the Committee took this matter up; but, being unable to secure the co-operation of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, nor that of the leading Japanese papers, it was not possible to do anything effective. In the meantime prices have declined to some extent; but are still much above reasonable limits. It is much to be deplored that a policy of restriction of output should be allowed to work against the national interests.

THE POSTAL SERVICE AND DOUBLE RATE OF POSTAGE ABROAD.

The improvement in this public service which we have so anxiously expected, has not yet been developed to any extent. The delays in the delivery of incoming mails continue, and there are no indications that the authorities are making any efforts to improve what is one of the most important public services.

Then, on top of this state of inefficiency, the rate of foreign postage is doubled as from the 1st January of this year. This has naturally given rise to complaints loud and deep, and the Committee endeavoured to secure the co-operation of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce in a protest to the Government; but without success. It is true that the Government are able to show that they have acted entirely within their rights, as the Madrid Congress of November, 1920, has authorised the raising of the international rate of postage to the parity of 30 centimes gold per 50 grammes. But it was made clear that this concession was intended to relieve those countries whose currency had depreciated as a result of the financial collapse due to the war. It would be absurd to pretend that Japan is in that category, and it is by no means easy to discover the reason which influenced the decision of the Government in this matter. So far as can be seen, it was not done with any intention of improving the service.

INEFFICIENCY AT THE CUSTOMS.

At the Customs we have also a Department in which great improvements are called for. The manner in which the business of the Customs House is conducted makes the frequent recurrence of congestion in the Customs compound more and more probable. The Committee drew the attention of the authorities to this danger, and received a courteous reply to their representation; but the evil is being gradually developed. By the manner in which Customs officers do their work, and the remonstrances of the Board have led to any betterment of the conditions. The passing of inward cargo appears to be hindered in every way possible, with the result that in many cases goods remain in the Compound for a month, six weeks, and even longer, while the officials sit off duty as often as on, and when on duty appear to deliberately obstruct importers in every possible way. It would almost seem as though they were carrying out an official policy of discouraging importers. I need not refer more particularly to the increased pilfering which is going on in the Customs compound, and which the want of co-operation between the Customs officials and the police helps to encourage.

It may be interesting to refer to the result of an investigation which has been made into the manner of working the business of the Customs. The official hours are from 9 a.m. to noon, and from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., giving six hours for ordinary business. But as a matter of fact, work only starts about 10 a.m., and at 11.30 a.m. the clerks begin to prepare for their mid-day meal. The mid-day meal and subsequent repose last until between 1.30 and 2 p.m., and at 2.30 p.m. the clerks begin to prepare for the closing hour of their labour. We have thus an official department working for about three hours per day, and we all know the amount of zeal displayed by the staff of any official department. The recent disclosures of scandals are sufficient to indicate the really dangerous state of affairs which now exists in this very important department, and it is high time that the Central Government should make inquiry into the inner working of the Customs service.

CHINA AND SILVER.

China, as usual, said a London contemporary. On May 15th, provides the uncertain future in the silver market, and the unsettled state of affairs in that country causes alternately periods of buying and selling. The impression obtains that some Chinese operators bought more than they really wanted, but, naturally, whilst Chinese war operations are in progress, they are loath to cut out their losses. Meanwhile, it is interesting to note from the circular of Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co., Ltd., that the amount of silver bought under the provisions of the Pittman Act must now be more than half of the total authorised to be repurchased (namely, 208,000,000 fine ounces). The Director of the U.S. Mint in his last annual report gave the following interesting details as to the way in which the silver is handled: "Every effort is being made to expedite the conversion of this bullion into dollars, since, as bullion, the silver is a 'dead asset', whilst, as coin, silver certificates may be issued against it and used to take up a corresponding amount of Pittman Act certificates, and at the same time replace the Federal reserve bank notes issued in lieu of silver certificates when the latter were retired to make the dollars available for melting. Converting this silver bullion into an active asset thus reduces the public debt to the extent of the coinage executed, and saves the payment of interest thereon. At the time of writing the accumulated stock of bullion is being rapidly turned into coin, and it is expected that this work will be current before the close of the fiscal year 1922, now in progress."

SEEKING TROUBLE. A SAILOR'S ADVENTURES AT THE TOKIO HOTEL.

"You asked for trouble and got it," were the Magistrate's final words to a naval rating named G. E. Freeman of the H.M.S. *Tamworth* who was the complainant in an assault case at the Magistrate's yesterday. He alleged that he was assaulted by a Chinese servant boy at the Tokio Hotel on the 3rd inst.

According to Freeman's evidence, he went to the Tokio Hotel on the afternoon of the 3rd inst., in company with Leading Seaman Taylor, of the H.M.S. *Tamworth*. They engaged a room for a rest. At 5 p.m. he arose and went downstairs when the defendant met him on the stairs and struck him without any provocation. The Magistrate: There must have been some previous trouble! Do you mean to tell me that he came up to you and struck you?

The complainant: Yes.
The Magistrate: Do you mean to say he struck you without a word being said?—Yes.
You expect me to believe that? Chinese boys do not do that sort of thing. There must have been previous trouble about payment! Did he ask you to pay?—My friend paid the bill.
Later the Magistrate again asked: So there is no earthly reason why you were struck?—No.

Magistrate: I don't believe you, that's all.
The defendant then gave his version of the story. He said that, about 5.15 p.m., the complainant came off of his room minus his trousers. He was drunk. On his way back to his room he went into the wrong room. Defendant showed him the right one. Later the complainant came out of his room again, improperly dressed, and commenced going downstairs dressing himself. On the way down he went into a room occupied by a Japanese lady.

The Complainant: I made a mistake in entering this room. It was the first time I had been in the hotel and I was lost.

Continuing, the defendant said that the complainant struck him when he tried to get him out of the room. At the foot of the stairs he went into the kitchen and commenced to tease the Japanese maid-servants there.

Sergeant Griffin said that when the sailor made a complaint to him he was sober, but he had been drinking.
A Japanese maid-servant corroborated the defendant's story, so far as the visit to the kitchen was concerned.

The Complainant: I never went near the servant's quarters.
The Magistrate: It seems to be quite clear to me that you were under the influence of liquor. You asked for trouble and you got it. The summons is dismissed.

COMPANY MEETING. NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

At the half-yearly general meeting of shareholders of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, held in Tokyo, on May 2nd, Mr. Ito, President of the Company, spoke on the business conditions of the Company during the six months ending March 31st. The business of the Company, he said, still suffered from the reaction following the war. The net profit during the term was only ¥12,000,000, the figures showing a decline of 20 per cent. as compared with the last term and a decline of 50 per cent. as against the corresponding period of the preceding year. On the whole, the shipping in domestic and nearby waters showed some activity, as did also the operations on the European and Australian routes. Other services, especially the North American service, were remarkably dull. This shows that the international economic world has not yet recovered from the effects of the destructive war. Transactions in business continued to decline, and the rates of freight showed a downward tendency, due to keen competition among various companies at home and abroad for the absorption of passengers and cargo. At this trying moment the Nippon Yusen Kaisha exercised the utmost economy both on shore and on its vessels, with the result that a saving of ¥1,000,000 was effected. By drawing on the dividend equalization fund a dividend at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum is declared. From April 1st the coasting service was made an independent department because there is a radical difference between this and the deep-sea service as to passengers and cargo.

In the early part of this year there was a prospect of revival in American and European economic circles, but this was falsified owing to delay in the settlement of the German reparations question, the strike of coal-miners in England, and of the American shipping strike. Even in the second half of last year the depression still prevailed. The deplorable situation is inevitable just now, when various countries are passing through a period of transition. However, pessimism need not be entertained as to the future of the shipping business. As a result of the Genoa Conference, a meeting of representatives of the Central Banks of various Powers will shortly be held in London to consider economic and financial problems. On June 15th another Conference will be convened at The Hague to deal with the Russian and other questions. The results of these Conferences cannot fail to serve as stepping-stones for a revival in economic circles the world over. A ray of hope is, therefore, visible.

Merchant vessels in the world at present aggregate 80,000,000 tons, against 45,000,000 tons in pre-war days. However, the marine trade during the term under review showed a considerable diminution. At the end of March this year vessels under conscription throughout the world totalled 2,850,000 tons, the figures showing a decline of 800,000 tons as compared with the end of last year. In conclusion, Mr. Ito called attention to the necessity of releasing from service many ageing and other employees, both on shore and on the Company's vessels, for the purpose of carrying out the curtailment scheme.—*Japan Gazette*.

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WHERE SHALL WE LIVE?

[TO THE EDITOR OF "THE HONGKONG DAILY PRESS"]

Sir,—Some years back the burning question was: "What shall we do with our boys?" Later the query arose: "What shall we do with our girls?" To-day (in Hongkong) the question certainly is: "What shall we do with ourselves?" Or, in other words, "Where shall we live?"

Now, Sir, in spite of Rent Ordinances and threats of more drastic action by H.E. The Governor, the position still remains acute; in fact, I had a more emphatic adjective in mind, but for the sake of your readers, forbear.

Happening to be one of the unfortunate house-hunters, I scanned the advertisement columns of the *Daily Press*, and, you Sir, can imagine my joy—if you have ever been in this same unfortunate predicament—when I noticed a European flat advertised to let, containing 4 rooms, bath-room, kitchen and servants' quarters. The locality could hardly have been somewhat more desirable, but, biggars can't be choosers, so I promptly bled me to my prospective landlord.

Yes, the flats would be available in about a month's time, and they were everything that was desirable; so said the gentlemanly prospective landlord.

A feeling of happy relief swept over my harassed mind. But, might I enquire the rental?

Without the flicker of an eyelid came back the reply: \$250 per month (inclusive). Ye Gods! Me for the simple life. —Yours, etc.,

"NEWCHUM."

Hongkong, June 9th, 1922.

THE "REAL ENEMIES OF THE BRITISH NATION."

[TO THE EDITOR OF "THE HONGKONG DAILY PRESS"]

Sir,—In your issue of to-day I see a letter from Mr. Hughes, the last paragraph of which is important.

Leaving China to look after itself for the while, we note that "the real enemies of the British nation are (amongst others), unscrupulous agitators and faithless people."

Ought not your readers to be reminded, in order to prevent them enrolling *en bloc*, as Roman Catholics, that the British nation in the contrary deeply indebted to such men as Holyoake, Robert Owen, Stoford Brooke, and many others for such reforms as the Co-operative Movement, the Cheap Trains Act, the abolition of the "Taxes on Knowledge," the opening of museums on Sundays as an alternative to the Church or the "Pig and Whistle," and that these men were faithful in the sense that they were sceptical of the truth of Christianity? If some of them were ever unscrupulous, ought not your readers to remember that Mr. Hughes's co-religionaries have not been remarkable for the absence of this quality?

But your readers are not all children, I am sure, and do not need to be reminded of these things.

For safety's sake, however, I hope you will be so good as to publish this. Thanking you in anticipation, and enclosing my card, I remain, sir, your obedient servant,

GEORGE H. RAINER,

Member, Rationalist Press Association, 8th June, 1922.

SPORT

TENNIS LEAGUE TABLE.

"A" Division.

In the A. Division, I.R.C. are unbeaten, and the only side that looks able to beat them is the C.R.C. The I.R.C. will win the League if they beat the C.R.C., and even if they go down they will probably win for first place.

The U.S.R.C., by reason of their very close victory over the C.R.C., have just a chance of joining the two at the head of the tables. The U.S.R.C. have to meet the H.K.C.C. and if they lose on that occasion they will be quite out of the running.

Civil Service, the Club de Recreo and the Japanese have, so far, made a poor show.

	P.	W.	L.	Pts.
I.R.C.	4	3	0	4
C.R.C.	4	3	1	3
U.S.R.C.	4	3	1	3
H.K.C.C.	4	2	2	2
H.K.C.C.	3	1	2	1
M.B.K.	4	1	3	1
Club de Recreo	2	0	2	0
C.S.C.C.	3	0	3	0

"B" Division.

Q.C., C.R.C. and I.R.C. who have played five out of their nine matches, lead, with four points each. K.C.C., who have only played four matches, have been defeated once. Civil Service and Club de Recreo are bracketed at the bottom of the table, pointless.

	P.	W.	L.	Pts.
Q.C.	5	4	1	4
I.R.C.	5	4	1	4
C.R.C.	5	4	1	4
K.C.C.	4	3	1	3
M.B.K.	5	3	2	3
University	5	3	2	3
C.C.O.	5	2	3	2
Police	5	1	4	1
Club de Recreo	4	0	4	0
C.S.C.C.	5	0	5	0

FORTY THOUSAND DOLLAR KIDNAPPING CASE.

THE KIDNAPPER PLEADS "GUILTY."

Proceedings against the alleged kidnappers of Chan San Kwai, the Ying Wa College schoolboy, were continued at the Magistracy yesterday, before Mr. R. E. Lindsell. An ex-secretary to an ex-Civil Governor of Canton, in the Kwangsi regime, is charged with conspiring with other persons to kidnap the schoolboy. He is also charged with being an accessory to the kidnapping. This man's name is Cheung Chu Wan. Another man, Cheung Cheuk Hing, is charged with being the actual kidnapper. Mr. G. G. N. Tinson (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master), appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. M. K. Lo defended the ex-secretary.

At the previous hearing Mr. Tinson explained that he desired to take the case of the first defendant separately as he proposed to call the second defendant as a witness against the first. The second defendant was charged separately at yesterday's hearing. He admitted the kidnapping, but his commitment to the Sessions was postponed in order not to embarrass the prosecution in using him as a witness against the other defendant.

The ex-secretary was then put in the dock and the first witness against him was the other defendant, Cheung Chu Wan, who said he formerly lived next door to the kidnapped boy, with the defendant and a man named Li Shan Hing. He (witness) carried out the kidnapping. The other two, in September, supplied him with money to entertain the boy and make friends with him. They paid \$200 in this way in various sums. On the 8th October last they gave him \$200 in one sum and he took the boy to Macao. Three other men accompanied them. Two days later, a boat was engaged and they "went for a row." As a place called Pak Chu they spent the night and next day went to Pin Mo village to Koo Lan, where the boy was kept in confinement. From this time the witness was not allowed to see him.

The witness said he wrote the following letter on November 1st, and that it was chopped by the kidnapping gang:— "I beg to state that, with reference to the sufferings of your illustrious son Kwai Sang, it concerns neither Cheung Kam Fong nor his son. How could you conceive such an idea? In fact, he only went on board to bid farewell on account of friendship. At the beginning of the matter, the plot was planned and proceeded with by Chan Chu Wan, a nephew of Cheung Kam Fong and Li Shan Hing, the co-occupant of the first floor of the house (20, Bonham Road). As regards payment of expenses, Chan, as well as Li, undertook to pay them afterwards. They requested me to entertain your son to travel and drink, so as to allure him to this place. As I am not at enmity with your son and have no grievance against him why should I commit such a wrongful act? Thus you may excuse me. At present your son is enjoying an abundant supply of food and clothing. Please relieve your anxiety concerning him. I beg respectfully to enquire after your general welfare."

(Signed) CHEUNG CHUK HING.

At this stage the hearing was adjourned until next week.

ALLEGED "MURDERER CHARGED."

FATAL STABBING AFFAIR ON THE S.S. "HONAM."

The hearing of a charge of murder which has been preferred against a fireman named Shiu Kong of the s.s. *Honam*, was proceeded with at the Magistracy yesterday afternoon, before Mr. Fraser.

The man is alleged to have stabbed a fish attendant on board the vessel during a journey from Canton to Hongkong. The wounds were serious and the injured man died in the Government Civil Hospital some days later.

The fireman was arrested on the arrival of the steamer at Hongkong and the following day he was charged with "cutting and wounding." The charge was amended to one of murder.

Mr. T. M. Hazlerigg, Assistant Crown Solicitor, appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. W. B. Hind represented the defendant. Mr. R. E. A. Webster watched the proceedings on behalf of an interested party.

Mr. Hazlerigg said the affair happened on May 17th. On that date after the fish attendants had finished their mid-day meal a quarrel arose apparently over a gambling debt between the accused man and the deceased. After the quarrel the defendant went towards the crew's quarters. What exactly happened there was not clear to the Crown but the defendant, in a statement to the police, said that he was chased by the fisherman and, in self-defence, he stabbed the man in the back.

Mr. Webster remarked that it was quite unlikely that the man who was pursuing the defendant could be stabbed in the back. Dr. Valentine, of the Government Civil Hospital, said one of the wounds was a little to the right of the spine, and the right lung had been punctured. The cause of death in his opinion, was hemorrhage resulting from the punctured lung. An additional cause might have been the inflicting of a wound by an unclear weapon. The wound was some three inches in depth. It was almost impossible for it to have been inflicted from the front.

After evidence had been given by people who witnessed the quarrel and by the police as to arrest, the case was remanded to Monday afternoon next.

THE SUPREME COURT.

REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR FOR THE YEAR 1921.

1.—ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

Two hundred and seventy one (271) actions were instituted in this division of the Court during the year 1921, as against 249 in 1920. One hundred and fifty-seven (157) were disposed of during the year, 74 being settled or withdrawn before trial, as against 136 and 46 respectively in 1920. Of the 71 cases which had been set down for trial, 46 were disposed of during the year.

Two interim injunctions were granted during the year.

The amounts involved were \$5,429,404.50 and the equivalent in local currency of 15,000 Rupees and £1,243 14s. 10½d.

The debts and damages recovered amounted to \$835,543.01 and the equivalent in local currency of \$11,682.75 U.S. currency and £249 13s. 8d. as against \$588,102.94 and the equivalent in local currency of \$24,263.29 U.S. currency in 1920.

The fees collected amounted to \$12,724.20 as against \$12,690.25 in 1920.

IN PRIZE.

No action was instituted under this head during the year, and one vessel namely the s.s. *Brijaberi* was condemned.

2.—SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

One thousand seven hundred and sixty (1,760) actions were instituted during the year as against 1,690 in 1920.

The cases were disposed of as follows:— Settled or withdrawn 708, judgment for the plaintiff 688, judgment for the defendant 41, non-suited 2, struck off, dismissed, or lapsed 17, and pending 234 as against 621, 677, 38, nil, 44 and 321 respectively in 1920.

The claims amounted to \$331,422.40 as against \$306,507.68 in 1920 and the amounts recovered were \$138,457.59 as against \$150,400.35 in 1920.

The number of rent distress warrants issued was 509, representing unpaid rents amounting to \$40,853.12 of which \$12,066.70 was recovered, as against 678, \$50,702.74 and \$17,211.50 respectively in 1920.

Four hundred and ten (410) warrants were withdrawn on settlement between the parties as against 487 in 1920.

The fees collected amounted to \$2,953.50 as against \$3,727.00 in 1920.

3.—CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

There were 28 cases and 77 persons committed for trial at the Criminal Sessions, as against 71 and 102 respectively in 1920.

The number of persons actually indicted was 73, of whom 54 were convicted and 19 were acquitted. Against 4 persons the case was abandoned. In 1920 the figures were respectively 100, 81, 19 and 4.

4.—APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

Four appeals were lodged during the year, two from the decisions of the Chief Justice, and two from the decisions of the Puisne Judge.

Of the two appeals from the decisions of the Chief Justice one was allowed and a new trial was ordered, and the other was discontinued. Of the appeals from the decision of the Puisne Judge one was dismissed and the other discontinued.

Provisional leave to appeal to the Privy Council was granted in two cases, viz.:— The Attorney-General of Hongkong and the Castlefield Steamship Company, Ltd. v. Tsong Yee O. J. No. 33 of 1919, and in the matter of the Tai Sun Insurance and Banking Co., Ltd. (in Liquidation) (M.P. No. 33 of 1913). The latter was discontinued.

5.—ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

Six actions were instituted during the year. One was disposed of and the others are pending.

The fees collected amounted to \$214.50 as against \$499.95 in 1920.

6.—BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION.

Nineteen (19) petitions were filed, 10 being creditors' petitions and 9 debtors' petitions. The figures for 1920 were respectively 30, 18 and 12.

The number of receiving orders made was 7, being 3 on creditors' petitions and 4 on debtors' petitions. The figures for 1920 were respectively 20, 13 and 19.

The number of public examinations held was nil as against 4 in 1920. There were 7 adjudications as against 9 in 1920.

No scheme of arrangement was put through. Five petitions were withdrawn, 2 bankrupts obtained their discharge, and 2 receiving orders were rescinded. The estimated assets, in cases where receiving orders were made and not subsequently rescinded, were \$24,501.18 and the estimated liabilities \$128,334.43 as against \$300,467.20 and \$913,633.07 respectively in 1920.

The fees collected amounted to \$1,520.95 as against \$2,760.45 in 1920 and the Official Receiver's Commission as Trustee, where no Trustee had been appointed by the creditors, was \$2,162.65 as against \$4,625.00 in 1920.

7.—PROBATE AND ADMINISTRATION.

Two hundred and fourteen (214) grants were made by the Court being:— Probate 80 Letters of Administration 120 Declarations for Commissioner 2

214

The figures in 1920 were respectively 126 and 149, total 275.

The aggregate value of the estates was \$7,724,350.00 as against \$7,065,247.00 in 1920.

Probate and estate duties amounted to \$32,319.95, Court fees to \$12,209.00, and Official Receiver's Commission to \$1,908.83. The figures in 1920 were, respectively, \$367,958.25, \$10,285.15, and \$972.80.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

HARBOUR DEPARTMENT.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The gross Revenue collected by the Harbour Department during the year 1921 was \$800,798.13 as against \$701,493.26 collected in the previous year showing an increase of \$99,304.87.

	1920.	1921.	Increase.
Light Dues, \$	94,223.44	\$106,417.09	\$12,193.65
Special Assessment	102,000.57	115,710.44	13,709.87
Licenses and Internal Revenue,	152,139.46	171,124.30	18,984.84
Fees of Court and Office	252,139.72	307,086.80	54,947.08
Miscellaneous Receipts	59.07	478.01	418.93
	\$701,493.26	\$800,798.13	\$99,304.87

The principal increases are under light dues \$12,193.65, light dues special assessments \$13,709.87, boat licences \$9,971.50, fines \$2,006.68, junk licences \$3,600.25, fees for use of Government buoys \$13,725.50, medical examination of emigrants \$31,041.50, official signatures \$2,300.00 and survey of steamships \$5,878.00.

The only noteworthy decrease is under gunpowder storage fees of \$7,840.87, which is due to less gunpowder and explosives having been stored in the Government Gunpowder Depot.

The expenditure of the Harbour Department for 1921 was \$246,255.53 as against \$230,033.12, showing an increase of \$16,222.41. This increase is principally due to revised scale of salaries to non-European staff of this Department.

Under special expenditure of the Harbour Department a sum of \$5,850 was expended in purchasing a new motor boat for this Department and a sum of \$7,000 was expended in providing a new Hull for the S/L "H.D. 3." A sum of \$60,430 was expended in purchasing 2 A. class and 4 B. class buoys, anchors and moorings.

ALLEGED ARMED ROBBER ARRESTED.

Mr. Leo Longinotto appeared at the Magistracy yesterday, and asked for a remand on behalf of a Chinese who was charged with being concerned in two armed robberies at No. 5, Landale Street, Wanchai and No. 207, Reclamation Street, Yau-mai.

The man was arrested two days previously and had been identified by his victims as one of the members of a robber gang.

Inspector Willis said that two other men belonging to the same gang had been previously arrested.

A week's remand was granted.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA GLEE CLUB.

The University of California Glee Club, who were last in Hongkong during the summer of 1920, is returning on the *Empress of Canada* on July 19th. They have with them a No. 1 Jazz Band. Two performances will be given at the Royal Theatre, after which the Glee Club will go to Canton for two nights, and again return to Hongkong to give two more performances, leaving the following day for Shanghai per the *President Wilson*, formerly the *Empire State*.

Among the members of the Glee Club are seven players of the University of California Baseball team. Arrangements are being made for at least one game between the local baseball nine and the Glee Club.

The Glee Club are making this trip without any financial backing and are, consequently, dependent upon box office receipts to defray their expenses.

There were 97 estates vested in or administered by the Official Administrator during the year, representing an aggregate value of \$130,522.61. The figures for 1920 were, respectively, 82 and \$127,514.87.

Thirteen (13) were wound up during the year, of the total value of \$9,221.66 as against 23 in 1920 of the total value of \$18,732.18.

Twenty-five (25) new accounts were opened during the year amounting to \$13,223.20.

8.—OFFICIAL TRUSTS.

The number of trust estates in the hands of the Official Trustee at the end of 1921 was 19 with trust funds amounting to \$35,643.01 as against 19 estates aggregating \$53,461.56 plus certain house property in 1920. One was wound up during the year. No new trust was opened.

The amount of Commission collected was \$150.03 as against \$85.77 in 1920.

9.—REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES.

On the 31st December there were 421 companies on the Hongkong Register, of which 13 were in course of liquidation. During the year 84 new companies were put on the Register and 21 struck off.

The fees collected in respect of "China" companies amounted to \$53,380.21 and those in respect of other companies to \$14,873.30.

No firm was registered under the Chinese Limited Partnership Ordinance, 1911, or under the Limited Partnership Ordinance, No. 18 of 1919.

Deposits of the total value of \$4,265,000.00 have been made by Insurance Companies under Fire and Marine Insurance Companies Deposit Ordinance, 1917.

10.—FEES AND COMMISSION.

The total sum collected during the year by way of fees and commission amounted to \$58,830.07 as against \$60,957.31 in the previous year.

A FEW SPECIAL VALUES IN MEN'S WEAR.

A HEAVY BROWN BOOT SUITABLE FOR SHOOTING OR WALKING ... 15.00 PAIR.

SMART ENGLISH WALKING SHOES IN VARIOUS SHAPES, BLACK OR BROWN ... 17.50 PAIR.

AERTEX UNDERWEAR, ALL SIZES, VEST OR DRAWERS ... 3.25 A GARNETT.

B. V. D. UNDERWEAR, ALL SIZES, VEST OR DRAWERS ... 1.75 A GARNETT.

BLACK OR COLOURED CASHMERE SOCKS, ALL SIZES ... 1.50 PAIR.

A FINE QUALITY AERTEX DAY-SHIRT - 6.00 TENNIS SHIRT ... 6.50

SMART STRIPED TUNIC SHIRTS, ALL SIZES ... 3.50

ZAMBRENE DOUBLE TRIPLE PROOF RAINCOATS, ALL SIZES ... 45.00

FOX'S UMBRELLAS, WITH A FINE QUALITY UNION COVER, NATURAL STICKS ... 8.50

LANE, CRAWFORD, LTD.

DICK'S PATENT. UNIVERSAL PACKING STEAM & HYDRAULIC

SOLE AGENTS:

LANE, CRAWFORD, LTD.

HONGKONG.

IF IT'S MUSIC, RECORDS, OR PLANS, YOU WANT

GO TO ANDERSON'S

OPPOSITE CITY HALL - TEL. 1322

Powell

TELEPHONE 8146

JUST RECEIVED.

SMART MILLINERY

FOR LADIES and CHILDREN

ALSO GOWNS FROM PARIS.

COTTON VOILES IN A BEAUTIFUL RANGE OF COLOURINGS AND DESIGNS.

WICHERT'S White Footwear.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

NOTICE

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that on and after MONDAY, the 12th instant, the Supply of Water to a portion of the RIDER MAIN DISTRICTS West of Eastern Street will be controlled by bringing the RIDER MAINS into operation and that Water will be turned on to each RIDER MAIN daily for Two Consecutive Hours. Information as to the Hours of Supply to any Particular Property may be obtained on application at the Office of the Water Authority, or Secretary for Chinese Affairs, or at the Tug Wah Hospital.

T. L. PERKINS,
Water Authority.

Public Works Department,
Hongkong, 9th June, 1932. [1120]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

SS. "JOHN SANDERSON"

FROM BOMBAY

THE above steamer having arrived, Consignees are hereby notified that the cargo will be discharged into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous godowns of the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, and stored there at their risk. Delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the undersigned. All broken, chafed, and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns where they will be examined on Thursday, the 15th inst., at 11 A.M., by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns, and all goods remaining undelivered after the 15th inst. will be subject to rent.

All claims against the Steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before the 19th inst., or they will not be recognised. No Fire Insurance has been effected.

GEO. GRIMBLE & CO.,
Agents.

Hongkong, June 9th, 1932. [1119]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LTD.
AND
CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

CONSIGNEES per Company's Steamer

"CYCLOPS"

are hereby notified that the Cargo will be discharged into the Godowns, where they will be examined on Tuesday and Friday between the hours of 10.45 a.m. and Noon within the free storage period.

No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the steamer's Godown, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 14th June, will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before the 24th June, or they will not be recognised. No Fire Insurance will be effected.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Hongkong, 8th June, 1932. [1112]

VEREENIGDE NEDERLANDSCHE SCHEEPVAART-MAATSCHAPPIJ

(UNITED NETHERLANDS NAVIGATION CO.)

HOLLAND-OOST AZIE LIJN

(HOLLAND-EAST ASIA LINE).

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

FROM AMSTERDAM, ROTTERDAM, HAMBURG, BREMEN, GENOA, LISBON AND MANILA.

THE Steamer

"OLDEKERK"

having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are notified that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra-hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Company, Limited, whence, and/or from the wharves, delivery may be obtained.

Goods not cleared by the 15th June, 1932, will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 14th June, 1932, at 10 A.M. by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas.

Claims against the Steamer must be presented in writing within 10 days after arrival of steamer, otherwise they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by the undersigned in any case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JAYA-CHINA-JAPAN LYN.

General Agents.

Hongkong, 8th June, 1932. [1115]

NOTICE

OWING to the advancing cost of newspaper production, it has been decided to make an increased charge of 20 per cent. on present rates, as from APRIL 1st, 1932, on the following descriptions of casual advertisements namely:

Government Notifications.
Municipal Notifications.
Official Notifications.
Legal Notifications.
Company Notifications.
Association, Club and Society Notices.

This, of course, does not affect the charges made for contract spaces held by commercial firms or for small "Want" advertisements.

HONGKONG DAILY PRESS.

PUBLISHED TO-DAY

CONTAINING ALL THE WEEKS

LOCAL NEWS.

The Paper to send Home

INTIMATIONS

NOTICE

STEAMSHIP "WRAY CASTLE" arrived from NEW YORK & BOSTON on 13th MAY, 2,508 Copper Ingots marked L.N.S. The above cargo, shipped from New York on a through bill of lading to Canton, consigned to order, still remains undelivered in the Kowloon Godown.

As storage charges are accruing, will consignees kindly communicate with the undersigned at Canton as soon as possible.

DODWELL & CO., LTD.
Agents. [1169]

OFFICIAL NOTICE

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE A SHIP'S NAME.

I WILLIAM NEVILLE CUTHBERTSON of Sydney, Australia, hereby give notice that in consequence of Structural alterations also the practice of this Company to name their vessels after rivers.

I have applied to the Board of Trade, under Section 47 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, in respect of the ship "HALLOONG" of Hongkong, Official number 132642 of gross tonnage 1,959.23 tons, register tonnage 1,107.53 tons, heretofore owned by DOUGLAS S.S. Co., Limited, for the permission to change her name to "GWYDIR" and to have her registered in the new name at the Port of Hongkong, to be owned by the NEW-CASTLE & HUNTER RIVER STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LTD.

Any objections to the proposed change of name must be sent to the Registrar of Shipping at HONGKONG within seven days from the appearance of this advertisement.

Dated at Hongkong this 2nd day of June, 1932.

NEWCASTLE & HUNTER RIVER STEAMSHIP CO. LTD.
W. N. CUTHBERTSON, Attorney.

1090

BRITISH MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

TENTSIN.

THE Council is prepared to receive applications from thoroughly qualified Engineers for the post of ASSISTANT ENGINEER. Previous practical experience in the running of a Water Works is absolutely essential. Preference will be given to candidates who have had a mechanical training.

The commencing salary offered is £1,200 per month, and a three years' agreement will be given to the successful applicant.

Applications should state age, nationality, and be accompanied with copies of testimonials, and be forwarded to the undersigned in time to arrive in Tientsin not later than July 31st, 1932.

By Order,
J. R. LYNES, Secretary.

Council Room,
Tientsin, June 3rd, 1932. [1111]

WILLIAM POWELL LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the above Company will be held at the HONGKONG HOTEL, Pedder Street, Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, on WEDNESDAY, the 7th DAY OF JUNE, 1932, at Noon, for the purpose of considering, and, if thought fit, approving the draft of a Memorandum of Association of the Company which will be submitted to the Meeting. A print of such draft new Memorandum of Association and a print of the existing Memorandum of Association of the Company may be seen at the Company's Registered Office Powell's Building No. 12, Des Vaux Road Central, Victoria, aforesaid, and the portions of the proposed new Memorandum of Association which differ from the existing Memorandum of Association are indicated by being marked on the Margin in red ink. Should the Meeting approve of such new Memorandum of Association with or without modification, the subjoined Resolution will be proposed as an Extraordinary Resolution, namely:

(1) That the provisions of the Company's Memorandum of Association with respect to its objects be altered so as to read as shown in the print signed for the purpose of identification by the Chairman of this Meeting.

and also for the following further purpose, namely:

For the purpose of considering, and, if thought fit, approving the draft of Articles of the Company which will be submitted to the Meeting. A print of such new Articles and a print of the existing Articles may be seen at the Company's said Registered Office. In such print the portions of the proposed new Articles which differ from the existing Articles are indicated by the underlining and marking in the Margin in red ink. Should the Meeting approve of such new Articles with or without modification, the subjoined Resolution will be proposed as an Extraordinary Resolution, namely:

(2) That the new Articles already approved by this Meeting and for the purpose of identification subscribed by the Chairman thereof, be and the same are hereby adopted as the Articles of the Company, and the existing Articles are hereby rescinded and in substitution for all the existing Articles thereof.

AND NOTICE IS HEREBY ALSO GIVEN that a FURTHER EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Company will be held at the same place, on MONDAY, the 28th DAY OF JUNE, 1932, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving a report of the proceedings at the above mentioned Meeting and of confirming if thought fit, as Special Resolutions, the above mentioned Resolutions (Nos. 1 and 2).

Should the first of the above Resolutions (No. 1) be confirmed, the alterations in the Company's Memorandum of Association consequent on the adoption of the same will be submitted to the Supreme Court of Hongkong for confirmation.

Dated this 27th day of May, 1932.

By Order of the Board,
H. O. KOLT, Manager.

1066

TO SECRETARIES OF CLUBS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

ALL preliminary notices of forthcoming meetings, lectures and entertainments sent for insertion in the news columns of the Hongkong Daily Press are charged for at the rate of \$1 each for announced in May and June of 1930, providing that they do not occupy more than four lines. In future if this space is exceeded they will be placed in the advertised columns at the prevailing rates.

INTIMATIONS

PUBLIC AUCTION.

MESSRS. LAMBERT BROTHERS have received instructions from the Executor of the late Sir ELIAS KAPOOR deceased to sell by Public Auction on

WEDNESDAY, the 14th day of June 1932, at 3 o'clock p.m. Subject to Reserve Price

the following valuable leasehold properties in five lots.

Lot 1.—Rural Building Lot No. 172 a building site at Repulse Bay.

Lot 2.—Subsection 2 of Section B of Island Lot No. 1916 and No. 11, Babington Park situate thereon.

Lot 3.—Subsection 3 of Section B of Island Lot No. 1916 and No. 13, Babington Park situate thereon.

Lot 4.—The Remaining Portion of Section B of Island Lot No. 1216 and No. 48 Robinson Road situate thereon.

Lot 5.—Island Lot No. 2139 and No. 11, Broadwood Road situate thereon.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale can be obtained from—

Messrs. DEACON, LOOKER, DEACON & HARTSON, No. 1, Des Vaux Road Central, Victoria, Hongkong.

Solicitors for the Executor or from Messrs. LAMBERT BROTHERS, The Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 2nd June, 1932. [1091]

PREPAID "WANTED" ADVERTISEMENTS

Letters are lying at this Office for Boxes ABC, QV, RF, RT, RU, RV.

RUSSIA HAS A FUTURE.—Therefore be Ready. An Ex-Serviceman out of work will teach Russian or French at moderate fees. Please Reply Box S.Q. c/o Daily Press Office. [113]

TO LET.—175, Penk, fully furnished, from 1st July for nine months, moderate terms, or will sell. Phone 2740 for appointment to view and particulars. [114]

TO LET.—Partially Furnished Bungalow at Cheung Chau from 15th June to 15th July at a reasonable rate. Overlooking Afternoon beach and commanding the finest views on the Island. Apply to Box S.O. c/o Daily Press Office.

WANTED.—Englishman. Several years' experience in the East, at present in a Merchant's Office, wishes to join a similar business with a view to partnership. Capital available. Excellent Credentials. Apply to Box S.P. c/o Daily Press Office.

OFFICES WANTED.—3 rooms. Central Situation. Apply Box S.L. c/o Daily Press Office.

TO LET.—OFFICES, top floor, Prince's Buildings—Apply HARRY WICKES & Co.

TO LET.

NEW EUROPEAN FLAT situated in Wantai Gap Road near Bowen Road. Apply to COMPTON DEPARTMENT of Banque de L'Indo-Chine. [1068]

TO LET.

From 1st July, 1932 or Earlier if Required.

SUITE of 5 OFFICES, 2nd FLOOR of 15, 17, 19 & 21, Connaught Road Central. Verandah to each room. FACING HARBOUR. LIFT from the Ground Floor. Apply Box 750 c/o Daily Press Office. [760]

FOR SALE.

LAND, approximately 7,000 square feet on waterfront at Swatow with modern 2 storied brick and concrete building suitable for office and godown. Further details apply 485] W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co

TO LET.

NOS. 35 and 37 WYNDHAM STREET. TWO STORED EUROPEAN HOUSES. Each containing 4 Big Rooms with Bathrooms, Kitchens and Servants' Quarters. Suitable for Offices or Private residences. Rent reasonable. Apply to COMPTON DEPARTMENT, Messrs. SHEWAN, TOMES & CO. [11072]

FOR SALE.

ABSOLUTELY NEW

(1) Two 30 BHP. Single Cylinder Bolinder Oil Engines. Revs. 250 per minute.

(2) Two 50 BHP. two cylinder Bolinder Oil Engines direct connected to 25 KW. 115 Volt direct current (compound wound) dynamo complete with back of board field rheostat for each machine.

(3) Two oil fuel tanks capacity of each 20 tons.

Apply to Bolinder C/o Daily Press Office

IF YOU WEAR GLASSES

there is almost as much comfort and pleasure in wearing Pince-nez Eye Glasses, as there is in possessing a perfect pair of eyes—for they fit so comfortably and securely that you forget you have them on—the most important improvement in eye-glasses in the past twenty-five years. Pince-nez Eye Glasses of any prescription in either regular or Torio form are manufactured by the Hongkong Optical Co., successors to Clark & Co., Manufacturing and Refracting Opticians—the most competent optical manufacturing establishment in South China—located in 53, Queen's Road Central.—Advr. [663]

INTIMATION

DEWAR'S

"WHITE LABEL"

SCOTCH WHISKY

still maintains its

pre-war world-wide

reputation—High

quality—real age,

and fine flavour.

SOLE AGENTS:—

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

Wine & Spirit Merchants.

ESTABLISHED 51 YEARS.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VAUX RD., C.

LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JUNE 10th, 1932.

ON TURNING SWORDS INTO PLOUGHSHARES.

An excellent idea, it will be allowed, is that in Dr. SUN YAT SEN'S pronouncements on the situation in China that an essential condition of the settlement should be that the military forces of the entire country shall be reduced to dimensions to represent the minimum necessary for national security; and that the disbanded troops should be organised into labour corps under their own officers, "merely exchanging tools for arms on terms of a fair living wage and reasonable hours of work." It is proposed that they should be employed in the construction of highways and railways and other industrial works—precisely the field where the able-bodied men can devote their energies, hitherto misapplied, to productive enterprise. Verily, a fine conception sketched with a literary touch. We wonder, however, whether Dr. SUN YAT SEN has discussed the proposal with any practical business man? The public statement he has issued represents it as an "immediately practicable" idea; something that could be put into execution to-morrow if an agreement to reduce the forces were arrived at to-day. Is it not obvious that for the employment of a multitude of men on the construction of highways and railways and other industrial works there are essential preliminaries which will take some time to provide? It is first necessary to have concrete plans for such enterprises and, not less essential, the capital necessary to embark on them—especially the funds required to pay the men "a fair living wage." If they were getting that now in the army there would be no difficulty about ensuring the pay of the men—under such an arrangement as that proposed; but we are frequently reading of the pay of the military and many other branches of the public service being sadly in arrears for months on end in

many provinces, showing plainly that the first thing necessary is such a reorganisation of the national and provincial finances as will ensure regular payment of the men and the steady supply of the funds needed for uninterrupted prosecution of the great undertakings on which they are set to work. For railway construction and other remunerative undertakings the Bankers' Consortium is prepared to lend China money, but they would need to be completely assured first not only regarding the soundness of the undertakings but likewise regarding the stability of the Government under whose auspices they were commenced. All this would take time—quite a long time probably. Again, railways cannot be constructed by rabble armies "under their own officers," unless it means that the officers are to become gangsters subject to the control and direction of a staff of experienced engineers. A moment's consideration of the proposal is sufficient to convince anyone that it is not immediately practicable, and if we are to wait for a political settlement until a scheme of this sort is put into general operation it is clear that we must wait a very considerable time, even if the political leaders of the country were to agree upon the general principle of the proposal to-morrow. Let those commanders who advocate the resumption of functions by Parliament but who have hitherto fought against the Constitutionists," says Dr. SUN YAT SEN'S manifesto, "demonstrate their good faith and sincerity by immediately forming one-half of their troops into labour battalions," and "thereupon orders will be issued throughout all the provinces for general disarmament and for the organisation of labour corps." Are these the proposals of anybody but a dreamer? An immediate transformation of this character is certainly not the proposal of a practical statesman. For such a transformation a fairly long-time of preparation is needed if it is to have any chance of success. Let us, we agree, an excellent ideal to aim at, but it cannot be attained on the instant by a simple declaration, however solemn and formal it may be. So far as Dr. SUN YAT SEN'S statement is concerned broadly with the guarantees he demands for the future stability of the restored regime, what he has to say on the subject will doubtless receive from the Northern leaders the consideration it deserves, but the deliverance of such a general aspect it is likely to prove a subject *post mortem*. It does not seem to us to make for unity to have Dr. SUN YAT SEN assuming, as he does throughout this statement, that his word as "President" goes throughout the whole of China. He says when the Tzuhsus he has in mind have converted half their battalions into labour corps, "orders will be issued" [meaning, of course, by himself] throughout all the provinces for general disarmament and for the organisation of labour corps. What justification exists for the belief that such "orders" would be heeded anywhere in China, save perhaps in the province of Kwangtung? Dr. SUN YAT SEN'S public statement has the appearance of being an effort to claim the leadership of a movement which has been organised in the Yangtze Valley independently of him by Gen. WU PEI-FU. It is true Wu has adopted the foundation principle for which Dr. SUN YAT SEN is contending, but we have not observed that the Northern leaders of the movement have any intention of recognising Dr. SUN YAT SEN as President of China. Their plans are for the reinstatement of LI YUAN HUNG. However, a stage has been reached once again when a conference of the leaders of the contending political factions in China might be convened with advantage if they are now in a frame of mind to accept practical proposals for reunification on the basis on which Dr. SUN YAT SEN has been insisting and which General WU PEI-FU has recently put forward as his own. The general acceptance of the proposal to reinstate the old Parliament is unquestionably a triumph for Dr. SUN YAT SEN, but he will need to drop impractical conditions of reunification if that triumph is to lead to a definite settlement.

A Chinese woman was knocked down by motor-car No. 623 on Thursday afternoon in Des Vaux Road West. The injuries she sustained were fortunately very slight.

Mary Johnson, a coloured woman, was fined \$25 by Mr. Fraser, at the Magistracy, yesterday, for soliciting in the Wanchai district on the previous night. The woman stopped a police sergeant, who was in plain clothes. She was arrested and taken to No. 2 Police Station.

The managers of Union Church, having received full authority from a duly convened meeting of shareholders to proceed with the project of establishing an inter-denominational Church in Kowloon, have appointed a special Committee to deal with the matter. The Committee includes a number of Kowloon residents and has power to add to its number. Its first business will be to go very carefully into the all-important question of site, which we understand, is still in abeyance.

Armed robbers paid a visit to No. 237, Hollywood Road, on Thursday afternoon. One of the gang approached the door and told the woman, who answered the knock, that he wished to speak to her husband. Nothing doubting, she opened the door when the gang rushed in, produced revolvers, held up the wife, a small boy and a servant girl. The servant girl managed to creep on to the verandah whilst the robbers were searching the room. There she blew a whistle and the robbers became frightened ran into the street and scattered in all directions.

The Canton Times says: Instructions have been given by the Municipality to every house along Shaukei that within a fortnight's time all houses or shops along Shaukei must be completely pulled down for the preparation of making a maloo there. House-owners are now busily engaged tearing down the tiles and removing the debris. The draftsmen of the Public Works Department are now busily engaged drawing plans and it has been proposed that an 80 feet maloo will be constructed with 45 feet side-walks and 15 feet near the canal where a row of trees will be planted. The surface of the maloo will be made of best constructive materials and upon its completion, it will doubtless be one of the busiest and finest maloes of the City. Merchants and the general public can reach Wongshah and Shaikwan then with facility. It has been announced that construction work will commence on July 1st.

On the subject of "landlords and tenants" at Singapore, the Straits Times says: Major Field, in his report to the Municipality on cost of living, states that the average monthly rentals of residential properties in Singapore have risen as follows:—From August 8th, 1914, to January 1st, 1922, European residences 105 per cent.; residences controlled by Rent Board 50 per cent. "Unless there had been a very grave scarcity of houses, such an enormous rise would have been impossible, and it is here nonsense for landlords to say that they are losing or their investments. It may be quite true that a few houses built when the cost of land and of all materials was at top figure show no great profit on the investment. But nine-tenths, at least, of the property upon which high rents are being drawn is old property, some of it indeed is very old and the profit on such property at present rentals is enormous.

"CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE."

COMMENDABLE CONDUCT OF "STAR" FERRY SAILORS.

A reader writes to us:—

"Regarding the paragraph in the morning's paper referring to the attempted suicide of a Chinese woman by jumping off the Star Ferry, I wish to correct your statement and give you facts.

It was stated that the woman was rescued by an Indian watchman. This is not so.

The incident took place about 800 yards from the Hongkong wharf on the journey to Kowloon. The ferry was stopped and put about, a look-out meanwhile being kept. The body was sighted after about five minutes search by two sailors in the Ferry employ, and these two men, with promptitude which was highly commendable immediately dived from the launch and brought the woman alongside. An artificial respiration was administered by a most approved method and the woman was brought round after 10 or 15 minutes work, and was conveyed, still unconscious, to the Kwong Wah Hospital.

My point in writing this letter is to give credit where credit is due—to the two sailors who effected the rescue, the Indian watchman was on board at the time.

CABLES.

(LATEST CABLES.
(THROUGH ROUTE'S AGENCY.)

THE ROYAL WEDDING. THE WEDDING CEREMONY.

Belgrade, June 8th.
The festivities in connection with the Royal Wedding were marred by a sudden thunderstorm during the marriage ceremony at the Cathedral.

The ceremony was carried out by the Patriarch, supported by four Bishops arrayed in gorgeous vestments.

AEROPLANES SCATTER BOUQUETS.
Despite the weather aeroplanes ascended, and attempted, though unsuccessfully, to throw bouquets of roses into the royal carriage; but the wind nullified their efforts.

The hundreds of thousands of people thronging the route, however, disdained the pelting rain.

"OH, KOOM, YOUR PURSE IS BURNING!"

The Duke of York, acting as *Koom*, or Chief Witness, at the Marriage Ceremony, and performed a number of traditional duties, thus, when the procession departed from the Cathedral, the children, in accordance with custom, shouted "Oh, Koom, your purse is burning!" to which the Duke of York responded by scattering handfuls of silver coins.

EARLIER CABLES.

SPLENDID FESTIVITIES.

Belgrade, July 8th.
After a romantic river journey escorted by monitors, the royal bride and her parents were welcomed on the 8th inst. by crowds in their picturesque Balkan costumes, massed on the heights overlooking the Danube. Troops in uniform and Sokol athletes were drawn up on the land stage, where King Alexander, the Duke of York, and the mother of the royal bridegroom went aboard and welcomed the party amid the booming of guns and the whirr of aeroplanes.

There was a great round of festivities yesterday at Belgrade, which never in its history has been so crowded with foreign notabilities, the events including a race meeting, football matches, and athletics. The members of Royalty everywhere received an ovation.

LATEST CABLES.

GERMAN REPARATIONS. BANKERS' COMMITTEE EMBARRASSED.

Paris, June 8th.
The Bankers' Committee, which is embarrassed by the fact that the Reparations Commission decision made yesterday, is not unanimous, sat for four hours and then adjourned.

EARLIER CABLES.

FRANCE WILLING TO NEGOTIATE.

Paris, June 8th.
The *quid pro quo* which France is willing to consider for consenting to an alteration in the German indemnity payments is indicated by the newspapers as either the cancellation of France's debt to the United States of twenty years' suspension of payment of the German debt without reduction of its total. It is noteworthy that M. Lelacox, the Belgian delegate on the Reparations Commission, is also chairman of the Bankers' Committee.

CONDITIONS IN THE COAL INDUSTRY.

"A BRITISH FAMINE."

London, June 8th.
The executive of the Miners' Federation discussed in London the serious situation in the coalfields. The secretary, Mr. Hodges, stated that every district with one exception, had reached the wage minimum. This, combined with irregularity of employment, was resulting in appalling hardships, justifying the assertion that a British famine had begun.

PORTUGUESE TRANS-ATLANTIC AVIATORS.

Bahia, June 8th.
The Portuguese aviators have arrived here from Pernambuco.

LATEST CABLES.

THE SITUATION IN IRELAND.

"A CHARMING BLOODLESS BATTLE."

(POETIC TO A DEGREE.)

London, June 8th.

A statement is contained in an official communiqué, that with a view to preventing bloodshed, the forces employed at Pettigo and Belleek were out of all proportion to the resistance expected. This explains correspondents' ironical descriptions of yesterday's operations.

Reuter's correspondent says "altogether one of the most charming bloodless battles in history, the weather was perfect, the scenery ideal, and the artillery shooting was masterly. The troops were good humoured and the roll of gunfire among the splendid hills was poetic to a degree, and best of all, nobody was hurt. A private in the Lincoln had an abrasion on his forehead which did not bleed, but otherwise there was no evidence of bloodshed."

A PHOTOGRAPHERS' FIELD DAY.
Cinematographers and photographers were the busiest persons during the operations.

EARLIER CABLES.

BRITISH FORCE CAPTURES BELLEEK.

London, June 8th.

A wide converging movement by land, sea and air forces ended in the British today capturing Belleek. A force consisting of the South Staffs, Lincoln and Manchester battalions, supported by Howitzers and numerous armoured cars, marched on both sides of Lough Erne, the waters of which were dotted with numerous small craft from Ulster's little Navy carrying stores. Aeroplanes, reconnoitring, reported the town to be sparsely occupied. Very light showers that the British were being attacked, whereupon the artillery opened fire and captured the fort at Donaghy and thereafter occupied the town.

PETTIGO ATTACK "DUE TO MISUNDERSTANDING."

London, June 8th.
The Liberal papers state that the military attack on Pettigo, mentioned on June 5th, was due to a misunderstanding. The peculiarity of the Pettigo and Belleek situation is that the former, though situated almost entirely in the Five Star, is inhabited by Loyalists, whilst Belleek, which is wholly within Ulster, is entirely Catholic.

BRITISH TROOPS WILL NOT ADVANCE.

London, June 8th.
A Colonial Office communiqué, dealing with the occupation of Belleek, says that the British advanced on both sides of Lough Erne at 19.40. In view of the fire directed against the British troops when moving inside Ulster territory, artillery and armoured cars were employed, and the fort was occupied without opposition. The village of Belleek was also occupied. No enemy casualties were seen and no prisoners taken. One British soldier was slightly wounded. All is now quiet. The operations designed to clear the Pettigo-Belleek triangle have thus been completed. Unless the troops in their present positions are attacked, they will not advance further. There is no reason for any further fighting. The intention is to withdraw the British forces within Ulster territory as soon as they are satisfactorily assured that no repetitions of the incursions and raids are likely. Communications for restoring tranquility in this part of the frontier are now being addressed to the Provisional Government.

IRISH PARLIAMENT ADJOURNS.

London, June 8th.
The Dail Eireann, after a four hours' sitting in Dublin, at which there were no references to the situation as affected by the London conferences, adjourned until June 30th. In accordance with the agreed programme, the new Parliament assembles on July 1st.

LATEST CABLES.

AMUNDSEN'S POLAR FLIGHT. FROM CAPE BARROW TO GREENLAND.

London, June 8th.

An aeroplane flight to the North Pole, which recalls Swide Andree's ill-fated attempt in 1897, is projected in connection with Amundsen's new voyage to the Arctic.

The *Maud*, after traversing Behring Strait, will follow the American coast. Amundsen will disembark from the vessel at Cape Barrow in North Alaska, and fly across the polar basin to Greenland in a Larsen aeroplane. He anticipates that the flight will take fifteen hours.

The crack Norwegian pilot Oudal, accompanies him on the flight.

PERU-CHILIAN CONFERENCE. DEADLOCK REACHED.

Washington, June 8th.

After three weeks of futile discussion, the conference of Chilean and Peruvian delegates, convened here to settle the Tacna-Arica dispute, have reached a deadlock on the minor question of "holding a plebiscite in the disputed territory."

It is expected that the impasse will be reported to the State Department in a hope that Mr. Hughes can suggest a way out.

EARLIER CABLES.

GERMAN-POLITICAL MURDER TRIAL.

SECRET SOCIETY'S AIMS.

Berlin, June 8th.

Frau Erzberger is indisposed and has been temporarily excused from giving evidence at the trial of the former naval Commander Von Killinger for complicity in the murder of Herr Erzberger.

The accused, giving information regarding a secret society called "Consul," to which he and the ex-officers Schulz and Tillesen (two alleged absconding murderers) belonged, declared that it aimed at preventing the spread of Bolshevism in Germany. He denied that its members contemplated forcibly overthrowing the Government or assassinating politicians, including Erzberger who was unpopular owing to his role in connection with the Armistice and the Peace Treaty. He presumed the Society's funds were derived from industrial and agricultural circles.

HOME CRICKET.

TWO-DOUBLE CENTURIES.

London, June 8th.

At Worcester, Hants beat the home team by an innings and 115 runs. Mend scoring 235 for the winners.

At Gloucester, Middlesex beat the home county by an innings and 165 runs.

J. W. Hearse scoring 201 for the visitors. At Cambridge, the University beat Sussex by ten wickets.

GOLF TOURNAMENT.

AMERICAN DEFEATED IN THE FIRST ROUND.

London, June 8th.

The Scotch-American, Jack Hutchison, last year's winner of the British open championship, was eliminated in the first round of the Gleneagles tournament.

OLYMPIC VENUE.

Paris, June 8th.

The International Olympic Committee has finally decided upon Amsterdam as the venue for the 1928 Games.

INDEPENDENT FRENCH AIR SERVICE.

Paris, June 8th.
The Minister of War to-day presented to the Cabinet Council the Draft of a Bill creating an Independent Air Service.

ATTACK ON HERR SCHIEDEMANN.

Berlin, June 8th.
A youth has been arrested at Cassel in connection with the attack on Herr Schiedemann.

ITALIAN FOREIGN POLICY APPROVED.

Rome, June 8th.
The Chamber has approved the Government's Foreign Policy by 209 votes to 67.

FAR EASTERN CABLE NEWS.

(THE HONG KONG PRESS AGENCY.)

CIVIL WAR IN CHINA.

ARRANGING ARMISTICE IN THE NORTH.

Tientsin, June 8th.

The Fengtien forces evacuated Shanhaikuan yesterday. There was no fighting.

A message in the *Peking and Tientsin Times* from Paoingfu states that the Fengtien forces have agreed to the Chihli armistice terms, including the return of rolling-stock and are sending General Chang Tso-lin, son to Chinwangtao to arrange the details of the armistice.

ARMISTICE CONDITIONS.

Shanghai, June 8th.

General Eng arrived at Chinwangtao yesterday, and announced that henceforth he would be responsible for the protection of that region.

As a preliminary to an armistice the Fengtien and Chihli Commanders agreed that the Fengtien forces would withdraw beyond the great wall at 7 p.m. yesterday. This was carried out.

ASSEMBLING THE OLD PARLIAMENT.

Dr. W. W. Yen returned last night from Tientsin and interviewed Kao Eng-hung this morning at Paoingfu to which town he proceeded from Tientsin by motor.

Kao Eng-hung thinks that Li Yun-hung will reach Peking about the middle of next week, as it is believed that the other militarists will follow the example of Tsao Kuo and General Wu Pei-fu. The old Parliament will proceed to Peking on the 11th inst. so as to resume functions in Peking on the 12th, which is the anniversary of the day of their disbandment in 1918.

WORKERS' EDITOR SENTENCED.

THREE YEARS' IMPRISONMENT.

Shanghai, June 8th.

Li Chi-han (Editor of Chinese *Workers Weekly*) mentioned in a cable message dated June 2nd has been sentenced to three years' imprisonment and expulsion from the settlement.

The offices of the *Workers Weekly* have been ordered to be closed.

A NEW JAPANESE CABINET.

Tokyo, June 8th.

The morning newspapers concur in the opinion that Admiral Kato will be asked to form a Cabinet.

PREMIERSHIP OFFERED TO ADMIRAL KATO.

Admiral Kato has been offered the Premiership and has asked for time to consider his reply.

JAPANESE NAVAL PROGRAMME.

AUSTRALIA DESIRES ADEQUATE PROTECTION.

Sydney, June 8th.

Commenting on the reported Japanese naval building programme, the *Sydney Morning Herald* does not believe that Japan meditates aggression, but declares that the Empire must constitute adequate naval strength in these waters to protect trade routes. It also thinks that the Federal Government cannot now venture to reduce the Australian fleet below the nucleus of three cruisers.

THE BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE.

SCHEME FOR RECONSTITUTION.

Paris, June 8th.

The *Echo de Paris* states that the Minister of Finance will shortly discuss with his colleagues, a scheme for the reconstitution of the Banque Industrielle, providing that on the establishment of a company which will temporarily manage its affairs, the State would offer to take over the rights of the bank's creditors in the Far East, against five per cent. gold bonds, based on the French share of the Boxer indemnity.

THE "CAIRO" ACCIDENT.

The body of Stoker T. Mahoney, of H.M.S. *Cairo* was washed ashore at Kelowai, Penang. It will be remembered that the unfortunate man fell between the *Cairo* and the *War Bahadur* while the former vessel was taking off fuel aboard in the harbour on the morning of the Royal visit. The body which was very badly crushed was unrecognisable and it was only when the clothing was taken off and washed that the identity of the man was established the name T. Mahoney being found on a wristbelt.

OUR LONDON LETTER.

THE BUDGET AND REPAYMENT OF DEBT.

London, May 11th.

On the whole Sir Robert Horne has not much cause for complaint at the way his Budget proposals have been received. His statement has been severely criticised in some quarters; but that is one of the things that any Chancellor expects. Mr. T. P. O'Connor, who is now entitled to call himself the "Father of the House of Commons," having heard about 40 Budget speeches, describes this year's as "one of the very best," as it was "clear, simple, business-like and short." This is a noteworthy tribute from a political opponent of almost unique experience.

A critic who did not mean to be friendly told me that he considered Sir Robert Horne's performance as resembling the address of a Chairman at the annual meeting of a company's shareholders. But from another source I learn that this is precisely what the Chancellor meant his speech to be. At its close a young, a nimble-witted Australian Liberal humorously declared that until he had heard Sir Robert Horne he never expected that he would live to understand a Budget speech. This very aptly sums up the change in style and method now adopted by the Chancellors of the Exchequer. Gone are the days when an attempt was always made to achieve an oratorical triumph—often with very poor approach to success. The modern way is to be clear, precise, and brief.

REPAYMENT OF DEBT.

Criticism of the Budget is being mainly directed against two points in Sir Robert Horne's statement. The first is that he does not intend to pay off any debt this year, but on the contrary will borrow a sum of £10,000,000 in order to meet certain capital liabilities which fall in during the year. This is proclaimed as "a surplus by means of borrowing," and the criticism is verbally accurate. But the proposal to be judged fairly must be judged as one of a series of transactions and not as an isolated event. In the last two years the Government has paid off debt to the amazing amount of £232,000,000. It has thereby shown the world that this country can and will meet its obligations to the uttermost penny.

The result of this policy is seen in the improvement in the exchanges, so that we have saved no less than £38,000,000 per annum on our purchases of foodstuffs from the United States, or about 17s. per head of the population. This ought to be regarded as a reduction of taxation. There would be an obvious advantage in paying off more debt this year, and the only question is whether a greater advantage will accrue if money that could be applied to the reduction of debt is applied instead to the reduction of taxation. One thing can be said with certainty—no foreign creditor of this country will be affected in the slightest degree by this temporary postponement of debt repayment.

The war on the "dope" traffickers is being pressed home by Scotland Yard with commendable zeal, and from what I have been able to learn the vampires must be concerned in this terrible trade are at last "getting the wind up." So long as cocaine reaches London it can be distributed with little fear of detection, and night by night the fatal "snow" continues to pass from hand to hand in certain West End resorts. There have been discussions in the papers as to the best way of combating the evil; and probably in the greater vigilance of Custom House officials and in the concentration of the police in discovering the wholesale merchants are to be seen the best means of attacking this insidious danger.

WAR AGAINST "DOPE."

The London County Council have also begun to wage war on the unlicensed dancing-hall, which is the kind of place that begets the fever and reaction which make some people particularly susceptible to the lure of "dope." Perhaps the feature of the whole business that is most disturbing to the public mind and conscience is the way in which young girls are being victimised.

AT THE ACADEMY.

As usual, the critics are saying that the exhibition of pictures at this year's Royal Academy, just opened, is "up to the average, not exciting or remarkable for anything of real merit." But that is the way of the learned in such matters; their praise is always carefully qualified. The members of the public are, however, finding many pictures at Burlington House which will linger long in their memory and provide food for conversation and for thought.

A good deal of discussion has been caused by the picture of the "Wedding Procession," by Sir John Lavery, which records part of the pageant of Princess Mary's wedding. Some hold that it deserves to rank as the picture of the year, but this is claiming too much for any work of this description where there are so many conventional restraints on the artist. The most prominent war picture is by Mr. Sheldon Williams; it depicts the arrival of the Canadians on the Rhine, and is full of life and realism.

MONEY-BACK CALL BOXES.

Much interest is being taken in an experiment which is being made at Charing Cross with a number of automatic telephone call-boxes. Four have been installed at the railway-station. The method of procedure is simplicity itself. The insertion of the pennies causes the operator's lamp to glow, and the operator then inquires

(Continued at foot of next column.)

"NO SUCH MEN IN THE WORLD."

MR. PAGE'S GREAT TRIBUTE TO THE BRITISH.

A remarkable tribute to the British race, paid in the critical days of 1915 by the late Mr. Walter H. Page, the then United States war-time Ambassador in London, is contained in one of his breezy "Christmas greeting" letters published in the May number of *The World's Work* magazine.

"There was never such a race," Mr. Page wrote to Mr. Frank N. Doubleday, his friend and partner in the New York publishing firm of Doubleday, Page, and Company. "It's odd—I hear that it happens just now to be the fashion in the United States to say that the British are not doing their share. There never was a greater slander. They absolutely hold the Seven Seas. They have caught about seventy submarines, and some of them are now destroying German ships in the Baltic."

A GREAT MISTAKE.

"They've sent to France by several times the largest army that any people ever sent over the sea. They are financing most of their Allies' and they have turned this whole island into gun and shell factories. They made a great mistake, at the Dardanelles, and they are slower than death to change their set methods."

"But no family in the land, from charcoal-burners to dukes, hesitates one moment to send its sons into the Army. When the news comes of their death they never whimper. When you come right down to the hard facts, the courage and the endurance of the British and the French excel anything ever before seen on this planet. All the old stories of bravery, from Homer down, are outdone every day by these people."

"I see these British at close range, full dress and undress; and I've got to know a lot of 'em as well as we can ever come to know anybody after we get grown. There is simply no end to the silly sides of their character. But when the trial comes they don't flinch, and (except the thoroughbred American) there are no such men in the world."

"A seven-foot Kansas lawyer (Kansas all over him) came to see me yesterday. He came here a month ago on some legal business. He told me yesterday that he had always despised Englishmen. He's seen a few with stud-horse clothes and white spats and monocles on who had gone through Kansas to shoot in the Rocky Mountains. He couldn't understand 'em, and he didn't like 'em. 'So infernally uppish,' said he."

"Well, what do you think of 'em now?"

"The very best people in the world," said he. I think he has a notion of enlisting."

what number is required. The caller waits to be connected, and should he desire to cancel the call before getting through, all that is necessary is to press a button, duly labelled, and the money is returned.

LORD ROSEBURY.

Congratulations and good wishes poured in upon Lord Rosebery on the occasion of his 75th birthday on May 7th. He is now a partial invalid, and is wheeled about in a bathchair; but he still maintains a close interest in the progress of affairs. In his last published letter he said, "I am now out of the world," as a reply to an effort to induce him to speak at a public function. But although he is no longer on the stage, the public have not regarded Lord Rosebery in that light, and although he is detached from the active play of party politics he is regarded as a man who is able to exercise considerable influence on the course of events. He is often consulted in an informal way at his Surrey home, where he spends most of his life in these days, on the beautiful downs near Epsom.

THE NEWS FROM IRELAND.

There is no doubt in all reasonable minds that Mr. de Valera, the Spanish American so-called leader of Irish Republicans, and his precious followers are determined to make of Southern Ireland an Island among the free people of the world. They are, at any rate, most persistent in pursuing the fatal path of ruthless murder and internecine strife. The reasonable proposals of the Provisional Government have been rejected by the "gunmen" who are busy with the de Valerian task of wading through Irish blood towards the destruction of Ireland.

The Provisional Government have now declared their intention of fulfilling the elementary duty of seeing that the Southern Irish shall be free to vote on the Treaty which gives Irishmen more than ever they expected to obtain; and it is to be hoped that Mr. Collins and Mr. Griffith will prove as good as their word in seeing that the election takes place.

In the meantime, it is rather curious to note how public opinion in England takes the situation in Ireland. The fearful record of daily shootings in cold blood all over the South of Ireland is read with a remarkable air of detachment by people here. The reports of murders in Cork and Kerry are read with almost as much aloofness as accounts of lynchings in Texas. The reason is, after all, simple enough. It is the duty of Irishmen to make it possible for Irishmen to hold whatever opinions they choose, and to express these opinions on the platform and in the ballot-box without the least danger of being shot in bed by masked ruffians who differ from them. Time was when Englishmen were obliged to feel that they were responsible, at all events to some extent, for the fact that in Ireland the murderer and the politician were so often one and the same man. Now, Irishmen and Irishmen alone, must deal with Irishmen.—H.B.

BOTTLED IN ENGLAND Ross's "R" BRAND PILSENER BEER



PER DOZEN PINTS

\$4.25SPECIAL QUOTATIONS TO
CLUBS AND HOTELS.SOLE AGENTS IN SOUTH CHINA
LANE, CRAWFORD, LTD.

PARIS FASHION NOTES.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT,
ISAAC RAMSAY.]

PARIS, May, 8th.

The prolonged financial crisis through which France, as well as other nations, is passing, is having a repercussion in the fashion world of this country. While men shout themselves hoarse on the steps of the Bourse trying to sell depreciated shares, others in the rue de la Paix spend their time designing clothes which will appeal to women whose dress allowance no longer permits them to buy in the lavish, thoughtless way they were able to do till recently. While the mad season lasted, which came as an aftermath of the war, dressmakers and milliners could set any price on a model and find plenty of women only too eager to buy it; this reign is past and the same women, who are now faced with a present of commercial stagnation and a future fraught with fears of another war, look quite a number of times at a thousand-franc note before spending it; likewise, before buying they inspect the material, the trimming and the cut of a gown and calculate how long it will last and how it can be made to look fashionable a season or two ahead.

Designers with a sense of the practical as well as the artistic have been quick to take note of this change and create models to accord with it. Capt. Molyneux, the young Irishman who invaded Paris with his charming and original ideas as soon as the War Office let him escape from his khaki uniform, was one of the first to realise that fashions would need to fall in line with the changed times if women were to be persuaded to spend what money they had on clothes. A few short years ago Molyneux was unknown except to a circle of friends as a captain of one of the many regiments fighting the Hun in France; now, his name is a household word in Europe and the Overseas countries, whose buyers crowd through his grey and gold salons in the rue Royale every season. What Molyneux decries is as important as what the oldest-established designer in Paris decrees.

The most lasting impression after seeing the mannequins' parade in the hundred and fifty models that compose this season's collection is that of simplicity and restraint, both in regard to the line and the choice of materials. Every creation gives one the impression that it has been designed by an artist whose dominating thought at the time was that of economy. There are one or two very handsome and costly models, for foreign queens and profiteers' wives, who are exempt from the general rule, but the remainder are the last note in simplicity and moderation.

With the exception of one or two tailored suits cut on strictly classical lines, Molyneux shows only coat and skirts that are quite straight in cut, devoid of any trimming other than that a girdle or decorative clasp, and fashioned of materials that are durable as well as effective. The classical-cut suits are no different from what they have been ever since women adapted a man's sac jacket to their own figure; the straight suits are rather more suited to the modern, more or less "curveless" figure, and they also have the great advantage of not "dating" and thus proclaiming too harshly in what year they were bought. Grey and navy blue, are favourite shades for every-day wear, or to be chosen by women unable to afford more than one costume at a time. For more dressy occasions, there are suits in lighter shades. One of these is in jade green pique (a solid sort of material worked much in the same way as serge), made with a straight skirt and a plain, full jacket, caught into a low waist-line by a narrow belt of the material; this is caught at the side with a large, flat ornament in green and blue tones to match a vest in figured silk in the same tones of green and blue. Molyneux, by the way, seems to be very fond of blending these two shades; there was a time when it was said, "Blue and green should never be seen," but Molyneux, at any rate, combines these two colours with charming results. Another coat and skirt model made on the same line as this one was fashioned of a new material known as "impermeable crepe de Chine." This was chosen in a silver grey shade, and the sheen of the crepe de Chine with the additional weight of the impermeable substance produced a really delightful effect. Such a material is not only effective, but it must be the last word in utility and durability.

As well as coats and skirts, there were a number of three-piece costumes, this designer having realised, no doubt, how very useful such a style is. There was a very smart model in navy blue fine serge, trimmed with designs worked on in strips of crimson kid and coarse silver strands, the crimson note being repeated in a lining of this shade of Shantung silk. The coat was cut straight and full with loose-open sleeves and a stand-up collar imitating the collar of an Austrian officer's uniform; the frock was quite straight in line and embroidered with the same motifs of crimson and silver down the left-hand-side, fastening, and finished with sleeves in crimson Georgette. Other costumes of the same style were carried out in fine navy serge or gabardine, and trimmed with designs worked in white, silver or narrow black, waxed braid.

For travelling, Molyneux has designed big, roomy cape effects, and carried them out in brown, beige and kindred shades, mostly with the addition of stripes or checks in a deeper tone. None of these had sleeves, but all had deep, comfortable collars. Many of the light Spring frocks, too, have capes that go with them, such models being particularly useful just now to slip on towards nightfall, when Spring breezes freshen into chilliness. None of these latter have any definite cut about them, and appear to be rather complicated arrangements of draped widths of material and floating ends. As a matter of fact, there is very little definite cut about anything that

(Continued at foot of next column.)

WHEN YOUR HEAD IS DULL
AND HEAVY

your tongue furred, your bowels constipated, and you rise in the morning tired, with no relish for breakfast, and dreading your work, when you are racked with pains in the head, chest, back, stomach—all over, when you feel "done-up" and "fit-for-nothing," have no appetite no energy, no interest or ambition—your stomach and liver are out of order. They need help and need it sorely. Mother Seigel's Syrup, the well-proved herbal remedy, will give just the help your stomach and liver need.

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MEDICAL BAN ON MARRIAGE.

SUGGESTED COMPULSORY TREATMENT OF DISEASE.

A conference convened by the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases was held at Guildhall, London, on May 3rd, by invitation of the City Corporation. The object of the Conference was "to consider how persons infected by one of the venereal diseases can best be retained under treatment until a non-effective condition has been attained."

The Lord Mayor opened the Conference and said that so important was the subject under review that in the City of London alone it was found necessary to spend £3,000 a year in fighting the evil. Last year, 1,391 persons were under treatment, but of this number 831 left off attending clinics while they were still affected with the disease. The danger to the community in consequence was apparent.

The chair was then taken by Lord Gorell (President of the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases), and a general discussion was opened.

Lady Barrett, M.D., suggested that in education a more real conception of the nature of the disease should be given, particularly to those attending the clinics, and that clinics should be paid for by the patients according to their ability, those unable to pay being still given free treatment. She also urged that the medical profession should consider whether the etiquette as between doctor and patient should not be so far relaxed as to allow the doctor the right to take measures to prevent the marriage of infected persons after warning the patients themselves that they had the right to do so, and to inform the healthy partner of the danger he or she would incur.

Dr. C. J. Macalister urged the need for fresh legislation. The waste of energy on the part of the medical profession and of all who were trying to persuade patients to remain under treatment was great and the waste of money which resulted from want of sanitary control was simply appalling, the taxpayer having to pay the burden.

Dr. L. Stewart Sandeman also spoke on the need for legislation with regard to the continuous treatment of infected persons.

is not actually a tailored article, all lines and curves giving the impression of melting one into the other in a mysterious harmony of silhouette.

Molyneux is using lace to a tremendous extent. One sees it continually on any quantity of this season's models, in wool, in thread, in silk and in tulle. Nearly all his dinner frocks and most of his race frocks have lace about them. One very effective model of this latter type was in ecru Georgette with three deep bouffes of ecru-colored Venetian lace on the skirt and the same lace figuring on the corsage; a long, straight width of the Georgette was added in such a way that it formed the sleeves and, at the same, created a cape effect from the back, and an ecru-shaded hat and parasol, trimmed with touches of velvet in several shades of yellow, were added. Black silk lace was used a lot for dinner dresses, and one lovely evening gown was an inspiration of jade green satin and exquisite lace in the same shade. On morning and sports clothes, there figured heavy woollen lace, and always this was in the same shade exactly as the dress or skirt it trimmed.

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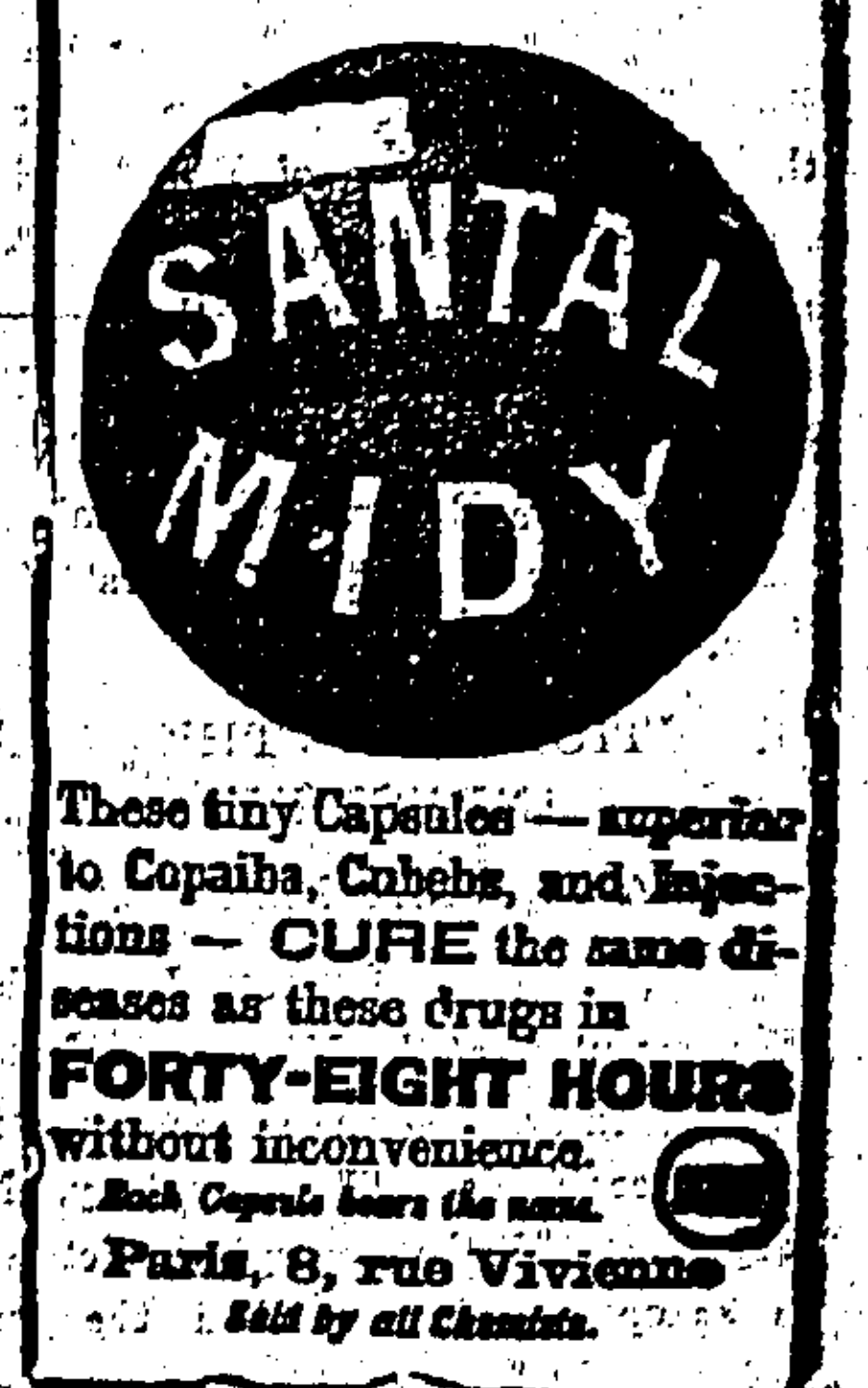
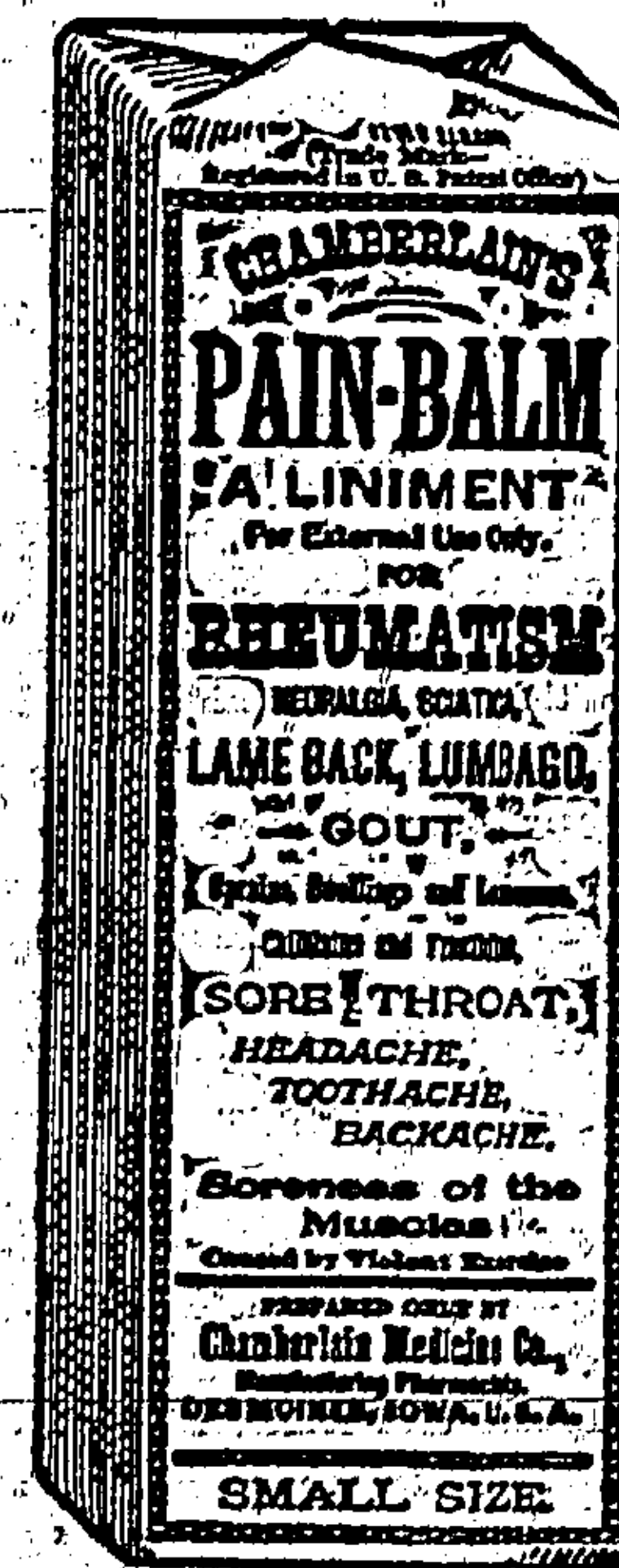
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